(c) to (e) So far, no departmental inquiry has been started against the Deputy Manager and hence the question of his suspension does not arise at this stage. Action against the concerned officers has already been initiated.

Appointment of Farmers Representatives in Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission

4228. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have since appointed the representatives of farmers on Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission;

(b) if so, what are the names of these representatives;

(c) if not, what are the reasons for delay in appointing these representatives; and

(d) by when Government of India are likely to appoint these representatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The non-official Members are yet to be appointed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government have received a large number of recommendations from a number of M.Ps., State Governments and other Socio-Political Workers. The recommendations are under the active consideration of the Government.

Modification of Rules under Section 21 of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act

4229. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have recently requested the Central Government to make some modifications in the rules under Section 21 of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976; and

(b) if so, what are the details and response of Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra formulated a scheme in which surplus land exempted under Section 21 of the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 was proposed to be utilised for provision of sites & services and construction of low cost tenements. There are certain legal difficulties which have been brought to the notice of the State Government.

Purchase of Vast Farm Land in Delhi

4230. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Press report appearing in the 'Indian Post' dated 25th July, 1987 regarding purchase of vast farm land by Shri Ajitabh Bachchan and Shri Amitabh Bachchan in Delhi, and showing a nominal value in the sale deeds thereby concealing the black money transaction to avoid taxes;

(b) if so, what is the factual position stating the estimated loss of revenue to the Exchequer due to these fraudulant deals; and

(c) what action is contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The News Item published in the 'Indian Express' New Delhi dt. 25th July, 1987 titled "Bachchan's real estate buying spree" has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) 43 sale deeds have been registered with the Sub-Registrar, New Delhi during 1985 and the average price shown in these sale deeds comes to Rs. 14,355,85 per bigha. The price of land depends on the location/quality and what is mutually agreed to between the parties. It is for the concerned Authorities like Income Tax etc. to decide whether such transaction of property is undervalued and take further action according to law, if feasible.

Expansion of Vanaspati plant of MARKFED, Punjab

4231. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MARKFED of Punjab has applied for expansion of its Vanaspati plant at Khanna and also for an additional licence of 100 MT per day capacity, on the basis of their new technology for production of edible rice bran oil;

(b) if so, what are the reason for declining the same; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that M/s. Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation has been issued a 100 MT licence for expansion of their Amritsar plant but have not so far implemented the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) MARKFED, Punjab had applied for expansion of its vanaspati plant at Khanna. The application has been *prima-facie* rejected. No application from MARKFED, Punjab for additional licence of 100 MT per day capacity for production of edible rice bran oil has been received.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Subsidy on sale of Certified Seeds

4232. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had recently received a representation from Punjab for providing a subsidy on sale of certified seeds through the State agencies;

(b) if so, what has been Government's response thereto; and

(c) what other steps are under consideration for stepping up the production of quality seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to develop necessary infrastructural facilities for the production and timely availability of quality seeds to the farmers throughout the country, the Government of India implemented Seed Projects with the help of World Bank known as National Seeds Project-I(NSP-I) and National Seeds Project-II(NSP-II). During this period (from 1976—85), nine State Seed Corporations have been set up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab under NSP-I and Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa, Rajasthan and U.P. under NSP-II. In order to further strengthen the facilities, the Government of India is considering to launch Phase-III of the Project in the year 1987-88. The Project covers Assam, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and North-Eastern States, besides augmenting facilities in the existing project States of Andhra Pradesh, Mararashtra, Bihar, Karnataka; Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.